

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 04356 141512Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-08 ARA-10
ACDA-12 /090 W

-----053436 151154Z /42

R 141214Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6009

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4356

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR AO PO US
SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON AFRICA

REF: LISBON 4243

1. DURING A CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER SA MACHADO ON OTHER MATTERS HE RAISED WITH ME PORTUGUESE RELATIONS WITH AFRICA AND U.S. AFRICAN POLICY. HE SAID THAT THE GOP WAS A CLOSE AND CONCERNED OBSERVER OF U.S. POLICY TOWARDS SOUTHERN AFRICA BECAUSE OF THE EFFECT ON PORTUGAL'S OWN ASPIRATIONS IN THAT AREA. IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT U.S. AFRICAN POLICY WAS UNDERGOING AN ASSESSMENT. FOR ITS PART, PORTUGAL WAS ANXIOUS TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH ITS FORMER AFRICAN COLONIES, BOTH FOR COMMERCIAL REASONS AND BECAUSE OF A SENSE OF DUTY. IT HAD FOUND BOTH ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE QUITE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING PORTUGUESE ASSISTANCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, SA MACHADO REFERRED TO A LENGTHY TALK THAT HE HAD HAD DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO NEW YORK WITH LOPO DO NASCIMENTO. FROM THIS CONVERSATION, AND OTHER EVIDENCE, HE CONCLUDES THAT NETO IS DEPENDENT ON THE CUBAN PRESENCE FOR SURVIVAL BUT WOULD LIKE TO FIND ALTERNATIVES.

2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 04356 141512Z

FOR PORTUGAL TO KNOW WHETHER THE U.S. ACCEPTED AS INEVITABLE THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SOVIET ADVISERS AND CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA OR WHETHER IT WAS U.S. POLICY TO CONDITION ITS RELATIONS WITH THE NETO GOVERNMENT ON A WITHDRAWAL OF THE SOVIET/CUBAN PRESENCE. WOULD WE INSIST ON A SETTLEMENT BETWEEN NETO AND UNITA BEFORE ESTABLISHING RELATIONS?

3. SA MACHADO COMMENTED THAT THE WEST FACED A DILEMMA IN AFRICA BECAUSE IN MANY CASES THE APPARENT COUNTERWEIGHTS TO SOVIET/CUBAN BACKED REGIMES WERE CORRUPT RIGHT-WING GOVERNMENTS. THE PORTUGUESE HOPED THAT THERE WAS A THIRD ALTERNATIVE: WESTERN SUPPORT FOR SOCIALLY RESPONSIVE POLITICAL FORCES. IN THIS REGARD, THE GOP FELT THAT PORTUGAL MIGHT HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY, WHICH IS WHY PRESIDENT EANES HAD RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF WESTERN HELP TO THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES DURING HIS BILATERAL WITH PRES. CARTER.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT RAISE THE FORTH-COMING EANES-NETO MEETING, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD THAT ENCOUNTER VERY MUCH IN MIND WHEN HE SPOKE. THE PORTUGUESE ARE EAGER TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THEIR FORMER COLONIES, ESPECIALLY ANGOLA, BUT AT THE SAME TIME THEY DO NOT WANT TO BE AT CROSS PURPOSES WITH US. FOR THIS REASON, THE PORTUGUESE HAVE CONSISTENTLY SOUGHT TO BE CLEAR ABOUT US POLICY TOWARD ANGOLA. I ASSUME THE DEPT IS GIVING THOUGHT TO A POSSIBLE USG INPUT INTO THE EANES-NETO MEETING. I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE PRESIDENT WERE TO CALL ME IN FOR THAT PURPOSE. I WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT PROVIDING AN UP-TO-DATE STATEMENT OF OUR POLICY AND INTENTIONS REGARDING ANGOLA FOR POSSIBLE USE WITH PRESIDENT EANES.

BLOOMFIELD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 04356 141512Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LISBON04356
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DECLASSIFICATION CODES CHANGES PER 78 LISBON 8369
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780250-0231
Format: TEL
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780661/aaaacalc.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1f793289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LISBON 4243
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2360263
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON AFRICA
TAGS: PEPR, AO, PO, US, XA, CU, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1f793289-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014